

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1874.

The majority of eastern papers are adding the cost of postage to the price of their weekly editions after the first of January next.

The election of Hon. W. R. Brown and J. R. Goodwin to Congress in this State leaves two vacant judgeships to be filled by gubernatorial appointment.

The wonderfully reconstructed state of Arkansas is having more trouble. Garland is in possession of the executive office, and Smith claims to be the rightful Governor.

In the Pomeroy case, at Burlingame, on the 11th inst., a continuance was granted on the motion of the defense, on the ground of the absence of material witnesses. "O, Lord, how long."

Ben Butler, sore over his defeat, threatens to form a new political party in Massachusetts. That's the way all the politicians do when they are snowed under: they want to form another political party.

A cruel rumor of the death of the Queen of England was abroad on Friday. It had no foundation in fact, and its origin was finally traced to a London taproom. The rumor and its denial came by cable nearly simultaneously.

The mysterious bell-ringing in the house of Mr. William Travers, of Baltimore, which so agitated the good people of that city a few weeks ago, has suddenly ceased. It may be merely a coincidence, but skeptics will pronounce it a suspicious circumstance that the cessation occurred simultaneously with the discharge of a colored servant, who has been for some time in the employment of the family.

A. B. Smith, "Ex-President of the Arkansas Valley Collegiate Institute," is another of those dead-beats who has been scouring the country and begging aid for destitute Kansas citizens. And now comes our State Superintendent of Public Instruction and puts A. B. Smith in a very bad predicament, as the superintendent claims that he knows (and he ought to know, if anybody) of no such institution as the Arkansas Valley Collegiate Institute.

The Democratic-Reform papers of Kansas have only the consolation that "time will make things right yet." The Republican papers will take the victory as it is and let the patient, Democratic-Reforming papers have consolation to their heart's content. Such forgetfulness of self, such martyrdom, and such untiring zeal for the "public good" as exhibited by the Democratic-Reform papers of Kansas has not been witnessed before for many centuries. The Republican papers will imitate Zeno and his sect—take things as they are.

The managers of St. John's Guild, New York City, say that at least 10,000 men and women are out of employment in that city, and that whole families are without the necessities of life. Hundreds are gathering at the Guild doors daily, clamoring for food, and the treasury of the Guild, even to its reserve funds, is exhausted. While such great destitution prevails in an eastern city, how thankful the hundreds of poor settlers upon our Western prairies should be, who find at least plenty of food and clothing provided for them.

People of South Carolina don't like the common rule of a jail, and consequently, at Due West in that state, one has been built much like the house of that erratic gentleman, Robinson Crusoe, which he entered by a ladder, and took the same in with him, only Due West retains its ladder outside. The "institution" has neither doors nor windows. The prisoner is boosted to the top of the wall and pushed in. Victims and drink are daily dropped into his hat. He is helpless to get out, except by a derrick and rope, which accomplices would find very difficult to smuggle in.

The Texas cattle trade has rapidly increased of late years. The total number of cattle shipped over the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad for the first seven months of the present year, was 38,903; as compared with 24,858 for the same period in 1873, showing an increase of more than 14,000 in that time. September and October, two of the best months in the year for cattle shipping, are not included in these figures, and if the same ratio is maintained, this will be the heaviest cattle year on record. Wichita still leads all the towns on that railroad as a shipping point, 22,361, out of 28,968, having been shipped there.

Some fellows have discovered that by the constitution of the State (art. 1, sec. 14), Lippin can only serve out the unexpired term of State Treasurer, that is, until January. John Francis, who wanted to be but was not nominated in the Republican convention, picked upon this point and managed to get the vote of his county for him. He now claims, we understand, that he is duly elected Treasurer, and proposes to take charge of the office after January. He evidently has cheek and there is the best of evidence now before us that the convention did a wise thing in not nominating him.

T. D. Thatcher is mentioned for speaker of the next Kansas House. An excellent nomination.

Undertook, the "professor in penmanship," convicted of the murder of Goss, was hanged at Westchester, Pa., on Thursday last, at 12:20 A. M. He made no confession. Just before the black cap was drawn over his face, he said to the attending clergyman: "All I have to say is, I am a sinner saved by grace, and I am a child of God."

THE DEMOCRATIC DELOS.
In Grecian story, the isle of Delos was at all times free from war. No hostile foot ever pressed its sacred soil, and all nations met there under the aegis of inviolable peace. Democracy is the modern isle of Delos. Under its banner may come representatives of all parties, and men who belong to no parties. There the white leaguer, the Tammany chief, the renegade Republican, the howling Reformer and anybody else who desires, meet in sweet communion and "historic" Democracy will not harm them but be master of ceremonies. Therefore, if voters are afraid that they will be contaminated and polluted by the Republican touch they can flee to the Democratic Delos. There they will be caressed and "soft soaped," but "native Democrats" will sip the choicer wines and eat at no second table.

DEFEAT BENEFICIAL.
There is no doubt but that the Republican party will be benefited in the end by its late defeats. Strong in its power and confident of victory on every field, it was not careful enough in guarding its lines. But temporary is the present disorganization, and the party will soon wheel into line, strengthen its position where it was weak before, and with its whole armament better and more powerful than ever sweep everything before it on the next field. The looseness which has lately prevailed in party organizations will be soon done away with and only two organizations—Republican and Democratic—will contend for mastery. Republicans, who have been deceived and gone off into new party vagaries, have discovered how they have been duped and now return to the old Republican camp. Democracy, they detest; and from it they flee. Discords and divisions in the Republican party will be healed to prepare for war against the old, common enemy—Democracy. The late Republican defeats will serve to remind the party that it must get rid of Bullerism wherever it is found and that some of its avowed leaders who are especially objectionable to the people, must go by the board. Everything in the shape of true Reform demanded by the people will be accorded to by the party and it will go on conquering and to conquer as before. In 1876 a Republican president will be elected as sure as there is a sun in the heavens!

PRAIRIE FIRES AND THE GRANGES.
An effort is being made to unite all farmers in the good cause of protecting the prairies from the annual visitation of terribly destructive fires. The best plan suggested is that each Grange shall compel its members to protect the country over which such grange has jurisdiction; that wide furrows be plowed around the country included in the Grange limits, and that the members turn out when duly called upon, with their teams and plows. There is no other organization among the farmers effective enough to bring them into a union upon this subject. We understand that the question has been officially submitted to the granges and that there is a chance of its being favorably received and acted upon. To protect the prairies from these fires is of vital importance; and when they are so protected many of the prevailing causes for the loss of crops will have been removed. To prevent the hot south winds which dry everything to the consistency of tinder, the native grass must remain upon the prairies. The hot prairie fires serve to make the destructive hot winds. To prevent drought the grass must remain; it retains moisture and serves almost as a wet blanket to keep heat out of the ground and protect the surface from the intense heat of the sun. With the hot winds and droughts the grasshoppers generally make their appearance. The cause of our loss in crops may be traced primarily to the ravages of prairie fires; and when they are checked we may look for better crop seasons, and an absence of grasshoppers, bugs, etc.

The Legislature.
The official returns are not all received at Topeka, but enough is known to fix the complexion of the Legislature about as follows:
Senate—Republicans, 23
Reformers, 8
Democrats, 8
House—Republicans, 68
Reformers, 6
Democrats, 28
Ind. Republicans, 3
From the above it will be seen that the Republicans will have a majority in the Senate of 12 over the combined opposition; in the House the Republicans have 53 majority over all opposition—and if the Independent Republicans vote with the majority the Republicans have two-thirds of the members of the House.

About the United States Land Office.
SALINA COUNTY, KANSAS,
November 12th, 1874.
EDITOR JOURNAL: Wishing to make a statement in your most valuable paper in regard to the workings of the United States Land Office in this district that your many readers will fully appreciate facts, I ask how does it come that when you take a preliminary you are required

to pay \$2.50 and get a receipt for but \$2. And again how does it come that when you homestead you pay \$10.00 and get a receipt for but \$18.00. And again how does it come they charge persons applying for land 50 cents for each plot, and many more charges that I could mention. The law does not recognize any such fees. As I understand the law the Register and Receiver each get three thousand dollars a year, and they employ their own clerical force out of that amount. I fail to find anywhere in the law where a man must make out his own papers, or that he must pay a fee to a land office clerk. I refer the men who are running the office in this district to page 6 of a circular from the land commissioner at Washington, D. C., and also to page 9 of the same circular. I would ask you, Mr. Editor, if the man who comes to this country with his family, does not need that extra money as much as a man who is getting his three thousand dollars a year; by a careful observation of all the extras they require it will amount to more than three thousand dollars a year. We, the homesteaders and pre-emptors, want to know how this comes. I am one of the many that think we have afflictions enough without land office sharks taking our extra change. I am personally known to what I say, and I will say more: I have known of plots given at the United States land office in Salina and 50 cents paid for each, and that there was nothing reliable about them. I have other facts in my possession which I will give to the public in time. I respectfully ask that you give this publication in your paper.

Yours,
A. R. HEAD.

Slang Phrases.
[From the Brooklyn Eagle.]
"Then they would talk—
"And how they would talk!"
Let us present a few specimens.
"What does Old Probabilities say?"
"Cheese it!" "Tumble to a racket." "You know how it is yourself." "Bully boy with a glass eye." "Oh yes, I've been there." "That's the worst I ever heard of." "That's what I told him." "What are you going to do about it?" "Put a head on him." "Is that your little game?" "You old duffer." "What a cheek!" "Give as a rest." "That's what the matter is." "Let's take a smile." "Where's Tom Collins?" "Gone where the woodbine twines." "Like a Philadelphia lawyer." "He'd skin your very teeth." "He's no chicken." "He doesn't scare worth a cent." "There's a nigger in the fence." "Go for him." "Mind your eye." "Geo. I'll hit you with a feather." "Over the river (du revoir), George." "That's what my wife said." "There's music in the air." "Big Six." "He's got the stamps." "Red hot!" "Go West, young man, go West." "Rip slap, set him up again." "How is that for high?" "It's a put-up job." "Re-rect." "He did his level best." "Looking around the Throne." "You're a nice young man." "You're too fresh." "You're altogether too new." "It's all the go." "Show me your man." "There's too many frills about him." "What a snort!" "He knows what's what." "It's all O. K." "Keep a stiff upper lip." "It won't wash." "Manic water." "You lie, villain, you know you lie." "You lie for British gold." "Step up to the Captain's office." "He's naughty, but he's nice." "I smell a nice." "He's too high toned." "Go it lemons." "Put a man's roof on him." "Don't put on any agony." "Whip the coon around the stump." "What's your hand?" "High, low Jack, and the game." "Go it blind." "My gay and festive cuss (Artemus Ward). "Knee high to a grasshopper." "I think he's perfectly charming" (with marked accent on the charm, a young ladies phrase). "Paddle your own canoe." "A Big thing on ice." "Two can play at that game." "Like Muldoon, he is a morning bounce." "Ah, going for a walk?" "Oh, George, he's a chum, oh." "Got a brick in his hat." "A nobby youth." "He's dressed to kill." "The bloated houndholder." "I'm in the same boat." "Well take a whack at it." "Simmer down." "You've dropped something (?)". "On the fly." "Don't give it away." "Shoot that hat." "That's all gammon." "Do you see any green in my eye?" "Go it while you're young." "He'll laugh the other side of his mouth." "Have you seen the elephant?" "Cut his tail off behind his ears." "Schware off." (Jefferson's Rip Van Winkle). "Draw it mild." "It's no go." "When the soup house moves away." "I'm a bad man." "Put me in my little bed." "That's too thin." "Oh, Keizer, don't you want to buy a duff?" "I should smile if you didn't." "How does the land lay?" "You can't most always sometimes generally tell." "Why is this?" "We slake hands across the bloody chasm." "Greeley (a phrase which afforded a grand opportunity during the last political and Presidential campaign for the 'small fry' politicians to 'let off their superfluous powder'). "He slings a nasty pen." "Dead to rights." "Bring him to his oats." "Give him away." "His little bill." "Hang it up." "Lay him out." (a murderous phrase in use among the 'Battle Row Gang'). "Keep cool." "Used up." "Quite some." "Western colloquy." "Oh, let it slide." "Soft soap." or "Sawder." (Sam Slick's favorite expression). "Shine 'em up." or "Want a shine?"

The foregoing expressions are heard every day on the ferryboat, on the streets, on the steamer, on the railway, in the lobby of the Academy of Music, at the Philharmonic rehearsals, and on opera nights. They are heard emanating from the gods of the Bowery as they sit near heaven, from the elegantly dressed and costumed "Don Giovanni, by Jove," as he lounges and twirls his cane in the corridors of the St. Nicholas, Pierpont, and Mansion. They issue forth from the lips of the "land rats and water rats," and "most grave and reverend seigniors." They are shouted in Wall street, at the Stock Exchange, the Gold Board, the horse race, and indeed wherever the English tongue is spoken or written. They are used by that shrewd observer of human nature, its weakness and foibles—the street gamin, including the newsboy and the bootblack, the nattily dressed clerk of Broadway and Fulton street, the fair and pretty school girl, while even the banker, the broker, and elegant professional gentleman employ them because there are pity and come to the "mind's eye" when more elegant and correct English fails to come to time at the critical moment. It is not always an easy matter for even an educated or cultured gentleman to employ the most elegant diction with which he is familiar. Many a person acquainted with the difficulties of extemporaneous speaking will recognize the truth of this statement and as readily recall to memory the "slang feeling" confused state

of mind and hesitancy of the words up to the time when called upon suddenly for a speech or address.

A reason why slang is peculiarly popular in America lies in the fact that the American people are pre-eminently a humorous, a good natured people, and thus they may be excused, in a great measure, for their persistent effort at defiling the King's English. They love a humorously-turned sentence, even though it borders on the profane at times, and is written under the stress of great difficulties and at periods which try men's souls, as witnesses the following incident, told by the late Albert D. Richardson:

General Jeff Thompson, a literary bushwhacker, was termed the "Swamp Fox," and the "Marion of the Southern Revolution." I found one of his effusions entitled "Cheese Again," in that once decorous journal, the New Orleans Picayune. Its transition from the pathetic to the profane is curious antithesis.

My dear wife awaits my coming.
My children bid me home.
And kind friends bid me welcome
To my own home again.
My father's grave lies on the hill,
My boyhood days in the vale;
I love each rock and murmuring rill,
Each mountain hill, and dale,
I'll suffer hardships, toil, and pain,
For the good time sure to come;
I'll battle long that I may gain
My freedom and my home.
I'll run the gauntlet, I may stand,
Disputing every rail.
My own dear home, my native land,
I'll win you yet, I'll win you yet.

The American journals of to-day, from Mexico to the Rio Grande, abound in happy expressions of wit and humor, and an encyclopedia of the humorous element in American periodicals and American literature might very profitably be compiled, for it would undoubtedly have a large sale; and it would show in a large measure that a nation may contain elements of good nature without, in any manner interfering with or compromising its greatness. And when slang does not degenerate into the actual vulgar, there is an irresistibly comical aspect to many of its expressions. They are decidedly expressive, too, in their nature: as an illustration, the mere use of the phrase "go for him," is not at all likely to be misunderstood with regard to its real meaning. No considerable portion of the slang of the day is introduced as popular "hits" or "gags" by the British blondes in their burlesques, as performed in New York and other cities, while certain phrases are but the outpourings and offshoots of the imagination and patriotic souls of the Sixth Ward or down Jackson street, near Avenue A. All of the phrases mentioned at the head of this article have been very popular at different periods of time, and the majority of them are still in use, although a few have sunk into obscurity, but every now and then fresh and newer phrases take their places much as the pronunciation of a word changes—the newer pronunciation defining the same thing, although the sound is different. And so it is with slang, new phrases come into vogue that mean to convey precisely the same idea or thought as the older ones, although they appear more apropos and would seem to suit the humorous mood and purpose of the multitude better.

Now a Lighthouse Was Built.
The mountain system of Brittany has a sort of continuation in a series of reefs and ingenious rocks which jut out in a broken line westward of Finisterre. On one of these broken rocks, called L'Isle de Sein, there stands a lighthouse, but the real danger lies to the westward, and the rocks there have literally bristled with wrecks of vessels making for Brest. In 1860 the committee for lighting the coast of France decided to erect a lighthouse on the extreme end of the danger, and after a careful examination, M. Floir, the consulting engineer, decided on the Ar-Men rock as the best site. At the same time he did not attempt to depreciate the prodigious difficulty of the attempt, and characterized it as "nearly impracticable." The currents are so strong, and the sea runs so high, that neither M. Floir, nor the other engineers, nor the director of lighthouses, was able to approach nearer than fifty feet. All they were able to ascertain was that the rock was gnarled, about eight yards across and twelve in length, and that it was just visible at low water. After settling their plans of operations, they applied to the fishermen of the neighboring island of Sein, as most familiar with the locality and danger, to commence the necessary works. These men undertook the task, and, provided with life-belts, began to watch regularly for the best opportunity of landing on the rock. As soon as they got their chance they crawled down on the rock, and clinging on with one hand, with the other worked away with a coal-chisel so as to sink a sufficient number of sockets for the insertion of the iron clamps. Every now and then a wave would break over the rock, drenching them with foam and spray, and not unfrequently one of the party would be carried right off by the heavy sea, but would soon be picked up by the vessel kept purposely on the watch.

At the end of the first season (1867) seven landings had been effected and eight hours' work done, which sufficed for the sinking of fifteen sockets, while the following year the weather was more favorable, and forty new holes were pierced, some of which were below water. In 1869 the blocks of stone were first placed in iron clamps about a yard long, riveted into the sockets. The blocks were all hewn according to pattern and joined together with Parker-Medina cement. The work of dropping them into position was exceedingly laborious, owing to the violence of the seas; but two of the officials were constantly in attendance urging on the workmen, and at the end of the season twenty-five blocks, each about a yard cube, had been successfully made. In 1870 other landings took place, and eleven cubes were laid, and in 1871 as many as twenty-three, the work by this time becoming easier as further progress was made. A steam launch is now used for the conveyance of material, and a sort of masonry scaffolding having been built, the builders have succeeded, during the first half of this year's season, in placing in position no less than eighty-seven blocks. The expense, however, as may be imagined, has hitherto proved considerable. Each of the forty-five holes pierced during the first two years cost upward of 2,000 francs, and on Dec. 31 last the charges had amounted to more than 189,000 francs. The light is to be a revolving one of the first order, and ninety-seven feet above high water mark; there are to be seven stories in the house, and there will also be a steam whistle for use in foggy weather.—Academy.

Too Many of One Thing—Or, not Enough.
To somebody, I rise with a loaf of bread under my arm, and ask in the name of ginger-pop, why the "Caucasian" race is considered so far superior to other races, when the fact is well known that the original Caucasians sell their children to the dark-skinned Turkey, and a majority of the race (in this country) vote the Democratic ticket? (You may fill my nose off with a raspberry, if these things are not so!) Such being the case, would it not be well to change the name of this noble people to "Caucasian-sian," or to "Kaw-cassian"? Would it not be well to have elected Cussy? I feel tempted to say, "Caw!" but wishing to do the fair thing, I will not say it at present. Being desirous to enlarge my views upon this subject, I will await further developments.

Yours Truly,
A. KAW.

The Present Tax Law.
The following is a synopsis of the present tax law of Kansas:
Taxes become due on the 1st day of November of each year, and under the laws of last winter are payable as follows, to-wit:
One-half on or before the 20th day of December, 1874.
The other half on or before the 20th day of June, 1875.
If any part of the first half of said taxes remain unpaid after the 20th day of December, 1874, then the whole amount of tax charged against any person, becomes due.

If any person shall pay the full amount of his taxation on or before December 20th, 1874, then such person will be allowed by the County Treasurer a deduction of five per cent on the half that would not be due until June 20th, 1875. If he pays one-half December 20th, 1874, he gets a deduction of five per cent, but his other half, June 20th, 1875, to pay the other half, without penalty.

The County Clerk is required to add a penalty on unpaid taxes, as follows, to-wit:
If neither the whole or half of taxes are paid on or before December 20th, 1874, then on the day following, five per cent is added. Then the taxes with the first penalty added go until March 20th, 1875, and if not paid on or before that day, then on the day following an additional five per cent is added; then the taxes with the 1st and 2d penalty added, go until June 20th, 1875, and if not paid on or before that day, then on the day following an additional five per cent is added, (making a total of fifteen per cent.); and if half the taxes are paid December 20th, 1874, and it the other half due June 20th, 1875, is not paid when due, five per cent will be added to such unpaid portion. The sale of real property for non-payment of taxes commences annually on the first Tuesday in September.

The Babie is the name of a new paper started in Wichita.

MISCELLANEOUS ADVS.
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